



General Information

Our programme caters for children ages 4 – 13 in school years Reception to Year 8.

Reception - Year 1	Early Years Multi Sensory Programme	10:00 - 12.45
Year 2 to 6	Aleph Learning Programme	10:00 - 1.00
Year 7 to 8	Bar/Bat Mitvah Challenge Programme	10:00 - 12.15

“Making Sunday morning Hebrew Classes exciting, engaging and educational!”



Dear Parents,

We believe Sunday morning Hebrew Classes should be exciting, engaging and educational. In fact, it's essential that from an early stage children have a positive Jewish Learning experience.

Welcome to the Aleph Learning Centre!

The beginning of a journey in Jewish Learning.

At the Aleph Learning Centre we offer Jewish Education in a warm and welcoming atmosphere, where children are encouraged to discover and explore Jewish topics and traditions. Our overall focus is on 'learning through experience' – using the latest educational programmes. From the first day we place an emphasis on developing our students' appreciation of their Jewish heritage and tradition. Our new syllabus combines interactive classroom studies, that bring Judaism alive, with a range of extracurricular activities including our musical Tefilah assemblies and 'Funday Sundays', where children participate in workshops to prepare for the Jewish Festivals.

In addition to Sunday morning learning we invite you to join us over the course of the year, at our communal family events, our annual shabbaton and other regular opportunities to be involved in educational activities with your children. With close to 250 children enrolled, at one of the largest Hebrew Schools in Europe, we look forward to developing the centre at HGS Synagogue and encourage you to join us as partners in your children's Jewish Education.

Feel free to contact us at any time with your thoughts or suggestions.

Chayli Fehler
Head Teacher

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Co Chairs
Jonathan Dimson
Joanna Johnson



Our aim is that our students should...

- + Be encouraged to discover and explore Jewish topics focusing on their relevance today
- + Attain a strong pride and positive sense of Jewish identity
- + Gain an understanding of the practices and traditions of Judaism
- + Be able to read Hebrew fluently and be familiar with the siddur
- + Have a working knowledge and appreciation of all Jewish holidays and festivals
- + Learn the meaning of basic prayers and feel comfortable in Synagogue services
- + Identify with the land of Israel and its inhabitants
- + Build lasting friendships with other Jewish children in the community
- + Gain an understanding of the morals, values and ethical behaviours in Judaism

Our underlying approach is for children to enjoy their time spent at the Aleph Learning Centre so they are left with positive feelings and fond memories of their Jewish education.

"We love the workshops where we learn things by doing them in action"



Funday Sundays

Alongside interactive classroom learning we provide opportunities for children to experience Jewish life as well.

Throughout the year we hold several exciting 'Funday Sundays', where children have the opportunity to learn more about the traditions and upcoming Jewish festivals in an informal environment. The children take part in hands on workshops for half the morning relating to the themes, mitzvot and customs of the various festivals. Parents will be invited to share in some sessions with visiting keynote speakers.

Rosh Hashana Funday Sunday – Shofar Factory and Workshop

Chanukah Funday Sunday – Chanukah Extravaganza

Purim Funday Sunday – Purim Festive Activities

Pesach Funday Sunday – Exodus Experience and Matzah Baking

Shavuot Funday Sunday – Sinai Experience and Torah Workshop

Israel Funday Sunday – Israeli Fair and Game show

Other events throughout the year for our students and their families include a Hebrew reading course for parents, Mitzvah Day, our annual Shabbaton and Siddur presentation.



Early Years Multi Sensory Hebrew Reading Programme

Hebrew Reading is a fundamental part of Jewish education, though not always easy to learn. Therefore, to engage and inspire, Hebrew letters are introduced to Reception children using a Montessori, multi-sensory approach where the children are taught through a range of practical, hands-on activities.



This engaging and interactive programme is an exciting way for children to start their journey of learning to read Hebrew and it ensures a solid foundation on which to build.

Aleph Champ

Following on from our Early Years Multi Sensory Programme, we have launched a new reading system known as "Aleph Champ", which is based on the martial arts motivational philosophy of colour-coded levels and testing. This popular programme has been developed in the United States and is used by Hebrew schools worldwide.

The Hebrew alphabet, vowels and word formations are divided into 8 coloured levels. Students start out as 'White Aleph Champs' working their way up to become a 'Brown Aleph Champ'.

"Hebrew Reading is fun, each level we pass we get a certificate and wristband"



Ensuring a positive solid foundation of Jewish Learning

White Aleph Champion - Master the first 18 letters of the Aleph-Bet

Red Aleph Champion - Master all 31 letters of the Aleph-Bet

Orange Aleph Champion - Master the first 4 vowels with letter combinations

Yellow Aleph Champion - Master the first 5 vowels with letter combinations

Green Aleph Champion - Master the first 9 vowels with letter combinations

Dark Blue Aleph Champion - Master all the vowels and exceptions to the rules

Purple Aleph Champion - Master reading familiar Prayers and Brachot

Brown Aleph Champion - Master reading important Prayers

We offer one to one and small group Hebrew Reading practice sessions every Sunday morning. We have a team of trained assistants who teach Hebrew reading using our Aleph Champ Programme, spending half an hour in every class.

We aim that, with regular practice, all children will be able to read Hebrew confidently and fluently, eventually acquire a general understanding of the prayers.



Staff

At the Aleph Learning Centre we have experienced, committed and enthusiastic staff. Our teachers are responsible for preparing lessons in accordance with our mission statement and are encouraged to use creative methods of teaching including the latest techniques and technology. They are devoted to creating a safe and stimulating environment inspiring our students to learn and continuously progress individually and as a class.

New Curriculum

Teachers follow a carefully designed Spiral Curriculum, which builds on previous knowledge each year through formative assessment and clear new Learning Intentions for each lesson. The curriculum offers a range of appropriate activities for each topic using a variety of multi-sensory methods - balancing formal and informal teaching. Our teachers plan weekly engaging lessons tailored to the needs of their individual classes, developed within the overall curriculum framework.

Teffilah Assemblies

In addition to our weekly davening sessions the children come together for a special teffilah/prayer musical assembly which guides them through the text and tunes of the prayers to familiarise them with the Shabbat services.

These sessions, twinned with Shabbat morning Children's Services offered by HGS Synagogue will enable the children to follow and enjoy the Synagogue service.



A typical day...

Activity/Topic

Details

Thought for the day:
Jewish Values

A short fun activity to start the day – looking at different Jewish values and practical application.

Prayer and the Siddur

Learning to pray and the meaning of some prayers. Familiarity with the siddur and how to navigate the service.

Hebrew Reading

Practicing Hebrew reading in small groups using our Aleph Champ programme. We aim for children to gain fluency and confidence in Hebrew reading.

Break Time

Several times a term we offer special structured activities during break, with a choice of football skills, Israeli dancing or arts and crafts.

Jewish History
and Holidays

Learning about upcoming Festivals, Jewish history, traditions and their relevance. Focusing on different targets for each year group

General Topics/
Project Work

Project work and hands-on activities based on the different general knowledge topics set for each year group.

Torah/Parasha

Study of the weekly Torah portion focusing on practical lessons that apply to our daily lives.

"I have made
lots of new
Jewish friends"


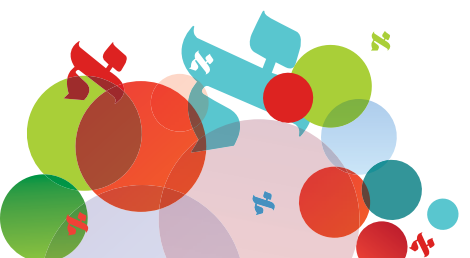


Year 7 and 8 Tribe Challenge Programme

Challenge provides a practical approach to Jewish learning for children starting their Bar/Bat Mitzvah journey. The aim of the course is to provide students with the tools to enable them to participate in Jewish practices throughout their life, as well as feel comfortable in Synagogue and be familiar with the key Jewish prayers.

The course offers an experiential approach to learning. Students are encouraged to explore for themselves and engage with the course in a meaningful way. An important aspect of the programme is for participants to form lasting ties with other HGS members in their year-group, enabling them to participate together in youth activities within the community.

Challenge helps solidify friendships at a time when children are heading off to different secondary schools.



Learn about
ancient traditions
focusing on their
relevance today

Explore. Discover. Experience

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